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Camp at Saratoga Oct: 12th 1777.

Sir,

I have the Satisfaction to acquaint
your Excellency with the great Success of the
Arms of the United States in this Battle.
On the 7th Inst the Enemy attacked our
Picket upon the left which drew on us about
about the same Hour of the Day, and near the
same Spot of Ground, which that of the 19th of
Sept^r was fought. From 3 O'Clock in the
Afternoon until almost Night the Conflict
was very warm & bloody, when the Enemy, by
a precipitate Retreat, determined the Fate
of the Day leaving in our Hands eight Pieces
of Brass Cannon, the Tents & Baggage of
their Flying Army, a large Quantity of fire
Ammunition, a considerable Number
wounded, and Prisoners, amongst the
following principal Officers - Major ~~_____~~
who commanded the Artillery, Major ~~_____~~
who commanded the Corps of Grenadiers,
Capt. Mowry ~~who commanded~~ 2^d Lt. ~~_____~~
and Sir Francis Clark, Aid de Camp to his
Excellency Gen^l Burgoyne. The Loss upon
our Side is not more than ~~_____~~ killed
and

and wounded. Amongst the latter is the gallant
Major Genl Arnold, whose Leg was fractured by a
Musket Ball as he was forcing the Enemy's Breast-
Work. Too much Praise cannot be given to the
Corps, commanded by Col. Morgan consisting of his
Rifle Regiment, and the Light Infantry of the
1st Division under Major Dearborn. But it would be
just to say that the whole Body engaged
deserve the Honour & applause ^{due} to such exalted
Merit. The Night ^{after} of the Action the Enemy took
Post in the strong entrenched Camp upon their left.
Genl Lincoln, whose Division was opposite to the
Enemy, going in the Afternoon to direct a Cannon-
ade to annoy their Camp, received a Musket Ball
in his Leg, which shattered the Bone. This has
deprived me of the Assistance of one of the best of
Officers as well as Men. His Loss at this Time
is too much regretted. I am in Hopes his
Wound will yet be saved.

The 9th at Midnight the
Enemy quitted their Intrenchments & retired to
Sanaboga. Early in the Morning of the 9th I rec^d
the enclosed Letter from Genl Burgoyna regarding
saying me that he left his whole Hospital to my
Protection, in which are 300 wounded Officers & Soldiers.
Brigadier

Brigade. Genl. Frazer who commanded the
flying Army of the Enemy was killed the
7th Inst. — At one O'clock in the Morning of
the 10th I received the enclosed Letter from Genl.
Burgoyne with Lady Harriot Arkland. That
Morning as soon as the Army could be
properly put in Motion, I marched in Pursuit
of the Enemy and arrived here in the Evening
and found the Enemy had taken Post on
the opposite Side of the Fish Kill in a
entrenched Camp which they occupied upon
their advancing down the Country. The
Enemy have burnt all the Houses before
them as they retreated. The extensive
Buildings and Mills &c. belonging to
Major Genl. Schuyler are also laid in
Ashes.

This shameful Behaviour causes
my sending a Drum with the enclosed
to Genl. Burgoyne.

I am truely

your Excellency that deserves
a deep Root in the Royal Army,
particularly among the Germans who
come to us in Shoals. I am so much
pressed on every Side with Business that
it is impossible for me to be more

more particular now, but I hope in a few days
to have leisure to acquaint your Excellency with
every circumstance at present omitted.

I am with great Respect
your Excellency's
most obed^t & aff^l Serv^t

Horatio Gates.

His Excellency John Hancock Esq^r -

Copy of Letter from Horatio
Gates to Congress at Lancaster

Oct 12th 1777